

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of regenerating an ion exchange resin, consisting of the steps of:

packing a used ion exchange resin in a regeneration tower; and
sequentially repeating, at least twice, a step ~~comprising~~ consisting of passing an aqueous solution of regenerant through the regeneration tower downward from a top part of the regeneration tower and thereafter passing ultra-pure water through the regeneration tower upward from a bottom of the regeneration tower.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution of regenerant is passed downward at a space velocity of 1 to 5 hr⁻¹ while the ultra-pure water is passed upward at a space velocity of 10 to 30 hr⁻¹.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in the regeneration tower, parts brought into contact with the ion exchange resin, the regenerant and the ultra-pure water are composed of a fluororesin, a vinyl chloride resin or a polyolefin resin.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein, in the regeneration tower, parts brought into contact with the ion exchange resin, the regenerant and the ultra-pure water are composed of a fluororesin, a vinyl chloride resin or a polyolefin resin.